

## FEDERAL ELECTION COMMISSION

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20463

February 22, 2001

RQ-3

Michael Avella, Treasurer New York Republican Federal Campaign Committee 315 State Street Albany, NY 12210

Identification Number:

C00055582

Reference: October Quarterly Report (7/1/00-9/30/00)

Dear Mr. Avella:

This letter is to inform you that as of February 21, 2001 the Commission has not received your response to our request for additional information, dated January 31, 2001. This notice requests information essential to full public disclosure of your federal election campaign finances. To ensure compliance with the provisions of the Federal Election Campaign Act (the Act), please respond to this request (copy enclosed).

An adequate response must be received at the Commission by March 14, 2001. Adequate responses received on or before this date will be taken into consideration in determining whether audit action will be initiated. Requests for extensions of time in which to respond will not be considered. Failure to provide an adequate response by this date may result in an audit of the committee. Failure to comply with the provisions of the Act may also result in an enforcement action against the committee. Any response submitted by your committee will be placed on the public record and will be considered by the Commission prior to taking enforcement action.

If you should have any questions regarding this matter, please contact Donald Averett on our toll-free number (800) 424-9530 (at the prompt press 1, then press 2 to reach the Reports Analysis Division) or our local number (202) 694-1130.

Sincerely,

John D. Gibson

Assistant Staff Director Reports Analysis Division



## FEDERAL ELECTION COMMISSION

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20463

Michael Avella, Treasurer New York Republican Federal Campaign Committee 315 State Street Albany, NY 12210

Identification Number.

C00055582

1831 S T S 1881

Reference:

October Quarterly Report (7/1/00-9/30/00)

Dear Mr. Avella:

This letter is prompted by the Commission's preliminary review of the report(s) referenced above. The review raised questions concerning certain information contained in the report(s). An itemization follows:

-Commission Regulations require that a committee disclose the identification of all individuals who contribute in excess of \$200 in a calendar year. (11 CFR §104.3(a)(4)(i)) Identification for an individual is defined as the full name, mailing address, occupation and name of employer. (11 CFR §100.12) Your report discloses contributions from individuals for which the identification is not complete.

You must provide the missing information, or if you are unable to do so, you must demonstrate that "best efforts" have been used to obtain the information. To establish "best efforts," you must provide the Commission with a detailed description of your procedures for requesting the information. Establishing "best efforts" is a three-fold process.

First, your original solicitation must include a clear and conspicuous request for the contributor information and must inform the contributor of the requirements of federal law for the reporting of such information. (11 CFR §104.7(b)(1))

Second, if the information is not provided, you must make one follow-up, stand alone effort to obtain this information, regardless of whether the

contribution(s) was solicited or not. This effort must occur <u>no later than 30 days</u> after receipt of the contribution and may be in the form of a written request or an oral request documented in writing. (11 CFR § 104.7(b)(2)) The request must:

- clearly ask for the missing information, without soliciting a contribution;
- inform the contributor of the requirements of federal law for the reporting of such information, and
- if the request is written, include a pre-addressed post card or return envelope.

Third, if you receive contributor information after the contribution(s) has been reported, you shall either a) file with your next regularly scheduled report, an amended memo Schedule A listing all the contributions for which additional information was received; or b) file on or before your next regularly scheduled reporting date, amendments to the report(s) originally disclosing the contribution(s). (11 CFR §104.7(b)(4))

Please provide the missing information or a detailed description of your procedures for requesting the information. For more information on demonstrating "best efforts," please refer to the Campaign Guide.

-Schedule B supporting Line 23 of your report discloses a contribution(s) to a candidate(s) for the 2000 Primary election; however, the funds were disbursed after the election date(s) (pertinent portion(s) attached). Please note that contributions may not be designated for an election which has already occurred unless the funds are to be used to reduce a candidate committee's debts incurred during that election campaign.

If the contribution(s) in question was incompletely or incorrectly disclosed, you should amend your original report with clarifying information. If you have made an impermissible contribution for an election which has already occurred, you should notify the recipient and request a refund and/or notify the recipient in writing of your redesignation of the contribution. In the best interest of your committee, all refunds and redesignations should be made within sixty days of the treasurer's receipt of the contribution(s).

Please inform the Commission of your corrective action immediately in writing and provide a photocopy of the refund or redesignation request sent to the recipient committee(s). In addition, any refunds should be disclosed on Schedule A supporting Line 16 of the report covering the period during

which they are received. Any redesignations should be disclosed as memoentries on Schedule B supporting Line 23 of the report covering the period during which the redesignation is made. 11 CFR §110.1(b)

Although the Commission may take further legal action regarding this impermissible activity, your prompt action in obtaining a refund and/or redesignating the contribution(s) will be taken into consideration.

-Please clarify all expenditures made for "radio buy" on Schedule(s) H4. If a portion or all of these expenditures were made on behalf of specifically identified federal candidates, this amount should be disclosed on Schedules B, E or F supporting Lines 23, 24 or 25 and include the amount, name, address and office sought by each candidate. 11 CFR §§104.3(b) and 106.1

-On Schedule H2, you disclose the ratio for "Telemarketing JUN/JULY/AUG/SEP" to be the same as previously reported; however, it appears that this activity/event was not previously reported. Please amend your report to clarify this discrepancy. 11 CFR §104.10(a)(1)

-Schedule H2 indicates the allocation ratios for the "GC Buffalo Reception" and "Albany Golf Outing 2000" fundraising events were revised during the reporting period. Please provide the date of the fundraising program or event. In the case of a telemarketing or direct mail campaign, the "date" is the last day of the telemarketing campaign, or the day on which the final direct mail solicitations are mailed. 11 CFR §106.5(f)(2) In the event that an excessive non-federal transfer was received, the excessive amount should be transferred back to your non-federal account.

-Your EVENT YEAR-TO-DATE calculations for Administrative/Voter Drive and the Seaport Reception 2000 fundraising event are incorrect. EVENT YEAR-TO-DATE totals for administrative and voter drive costs are derived by aggregating all disbursements during the calendar year for the whole Administrative/Voter Drive category. EVENT YEAR-TO-DATE totals for fundraising, direct candidate support, and exempt activities are derived by aggregating all disbursements during the calendar year within a specific event. These should be calculated by adding the latest disbursement for a category or event to the previous EVENT YEAR-TO-DATE total for that category or event. This running EVENT YEAR-TO-DATE total should be disclosed after each disbursement is listed. Please amend your report by providing the correct EVENT YEAR-TO-DATE totals.

-Schedule H3 of your report discloses transfers received from your non-federal account which occur outside the permissible transfer period. Please be advised that <u>transfers for shared activity must be made within a 70-day time period; no more than 10 days before or 60 days after the payment to the vendor.</u> 11 CFR §§106.5(g)(2) and 106.6(e)(2) Please clarify the nature of these transfers-in from the non-federal account.

The Commission recommends that you immediately transfer the total excessive amount received by your federal account outside the 70-day time period back to your non-federal account. Although the Commission may take further legal action concerning this prohibited activity, your prompt action will be taken into consideration.

-Your report disclosed a category of financial activity that has been reflected on the wrong line of the Detailed Summary Page. Contributions from other political committees should be properly disclosed on a separate Schedule A, supporting Line 11(c) of the Detailed Summary Page. Please refer to the instructions contained on the forms to determine the proper categorization when preparing your next filing.

A written response or an amendment to your original report(s) correcting the above problem(s) should be filed with the Federal Election Commission within fifteen (15) days of the date of this letter. If you need assistance, please feel free to contact me on our toll-free number, (800) 424-9530 (at the prompt press 1, then press 2 to reach the Reports Analysis Division). My local number is (202) 694-1130.

Sincerely,

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Donald L. Averett Reports Analyst

Reports Analysis Division

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## SCHEDULE B

## ITEMIZED DISBURSEMENTS

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